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In re Application of
Fritz Eckstein et al.
Application No. 08/936,657
Filed: September 24, 1997
Attorney Docket No. 228/213

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed August 7, 2000, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed August 16, 1999, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 is limited to an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance or a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(b)). Since the reply submitted on January 19, 2000 does not *prima facie* placing the application in condition for allowance, no Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee) was timely filed. Extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on January 20, 2000.

The two-month period for filing an appeal brief in triplicate (accompanied by the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(c)), runs from the date of this decision.

37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) requires a statement that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional. If the statement contained in the instant petition varies from the language required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3), the statement contained in the instant petition is being construed as the statement required by 37 CFR 1.137(b)(3) and petitioner must notify the Office if this is **not** a correct interpretation of the statement contained in the instant petition.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. See 37 CFR 10.18(b) and Changes to Patent Practice and Procedure; Final Rule Notice, 62 Fed. Reg. 53131, 53178 (October 10, 1997), 1203 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 63, 103 (October 21, 1997). In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that it is not correct that the entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the reply until the filing of a grantable petition pursuant to 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

There is no indication that the person signing the instant petition was ever given a power of attorney or authorization of agent to prosecute the above-identified application. If the person signing the instant petition desires to receive future correspondence regarding this application, the appropriate power of attorney or authorization of agent must be submitted. While a courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the person signing the instant petition, all future correspondence will be directed to the address of currently of record until such time as appropriate instructions are received to the contrary.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 305-9282.

Any inquiry concerning the examination process of this application should be directed to the examiner.

The application file is being forwarded to Technology Center 1600 for further processing.

Wan Laymon
Wan Laymon

Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Assistant Commissioner
for Patent Policy and Projects

cc: BROBECK PHLEGER & HARRISON
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